(f) whether the Reserve Bank of India and his Ministry have received any complaints regarding the irregularities and embezzlement committed therein;

(g) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(h) the effective steps being taken by the Government to keep a check on such banks and to save the hard earned money/deposits of the people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The Ajmer Urban Co-operative Bank Limited has been classified as a weak bank and is under a rehabilitation programme. It is not issued licence by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) under Banking Regulation Act.

(b) As on 30-6-1991, the total deposits of the bank were Rs. 231.37 lakhs and it had 9794 regular members. The share capital as on 30-4-1991 was Rs. 16.08 lakhs.

(c) to (e) The present Board of Directors was elected on 21-10-1988 as per Rules/By-laws. The accounts of the bank are audited every year and certified copies thereof are submitted to RBI. The loans and advances outstanding as on 30-6-1991 aggregated to Rs. 223.93 lakhs.

(f) to (h) Some complaints have been received by RBI regarding mismanagement in the bank, which are being looked into by them. With a view to keeping a check, the RBI issues guidelines to banks from time to time to avoid irregularities and frauds.

[English]

Irregularities in Bairagarh, Bhopal Branch of State Bank of Indore

4109. SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaints have been received by the Indore Zonal Office, Bhopal of the State Bank of Indore against some officials of the Bairagarh (Bhopal) branch during March, 1990 till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether an enquiry has been conducted by the bank in this regard;

(d) if so, the action taken by the bank against the officials involved;

(e) the guidelines issued to the branch for improving the service to the customers;

(f) whether some cases of irregularities/frauds had come to light in advancing loans to the customers during 1987 to 1991, till date; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) State Bank of Indore has reported that two complaints were received during the period from March, 90 till date. These complaints relate to (i) alleged acceptance of illegal gratification by Regional/Branch Manager from the landlord of Bairagarh branch premises and (ii) alleged business activities by the Branch Manager in the name of a firm.

(c) and (d) The bank has initiated necessary investigation into the matter.

(e) Apart from instructions issued in this regard, the bank has increased the staff strength at the branch to ensure improved customer service.

(f) and (g) According to the bank, no fraud or irregularity leading to fraud has come to light at the branch between 1987 and 1991, till date.

Amount sanctioned under Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme to Maharashtra

4110. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of farmers benefited under the "Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme, 1990" till date in Maharashtra, district-wise;

(b) the amount sanctioned under the Scheme to Maharashtra and the amount released, till date; and

(c) when the remaining amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The data reporting system does not generate district-wise or separate category-wise break-up of relief provided to beneficiaries under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990. The beneficiaries under the Scheme are, farmers, artisans and weavers in rural areas. The total number of beneficiaries including farmers provided with debt relief under the Scheme by all credit institutions in the State of Maharashtra as on 12-8-1991 was 28,75,337.

(b) and (c) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that a sum of Rs. 134.13 crores and Rs. 40.31 crores has been sanctioned and released to Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank (MSCB) and Maharashtra State Land Development Bank (MSLDB), respectively, as fifty percent share of Government of India for implementation of the ARDR Scheme in that State for co-operative banks. NABARD has also sanctioned and released a sum of Rs. 134.13 crores to MSCB and Rs. 40.31 crores to MSLDB as loan towards the State Government's share of fifty percent of debt relief cost. NABARD has also sanctioned Rs. 12.75 crores and released Rs. 10.32 crores to the Regional Rural Banks in the State of Maharashtra. It is expected that the remaining amount will be provided in the current and the next financial year.

Construction of Four Lane Road on Bhubaneswar-Cuttack-Jagatpur Section of National Highway No. 5

4111. SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a four lane road on the Bhubaneswar-Cuttack-Jagatpur Section of National Highway No. 5 in Orissa;

(b) if so, when the project is likely to be taken up;

(c) whether there is any proposal to have the World Bank assistance for this project; and

(d) if so, the details therof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. This project costing about Rs. 113 crores